

March 22, 2011

Mayor Sidney A. Katz
City of Gaithersburg
31 South Summit Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2098

Dear Mayor Katz:

Re: Great Indoors Site (City of Gaithersburg Land Use Map Designation #18)

Thank you for inviting the City of Rockville to comment on the Draft Land Use Element of the City of Gaithersburg's 2009 Master Plan. We appreciate the effort that your staff has put into this very professional document and applaud the overall product.

However, there is one portion of the document with which the City of Rockville must take exception. The draft element includes a stated intention to annex the site of the former Great Indoor store into Gaithersburg, which is found at Map Designation #18. This property lies to the south of Shady Grove Road and, per the attached map, within the City of Rockville's adopted Maximum Expansion Limits. It is our firm view that Shady Grove Road is the logical physical boundary between our neighboring jurisdictions, in conformance with spirit of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by Rockville, Gaithersburg and Montgomery County in 1992 (attached). Gaithersburg's annexing any properties south of Shady Grove Road would constitute piecemeal annexation.

The City of Rockville therefore requests that the City of Gaithersburg remove this property from its Maximum Expansion Limits and retain Shady Grove Road as the physical boundary between our two Cities.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Marcuccio, Mayor

John B Britton, Councilmember

Piotr Gajewski, Councilmember

Bridget Newton, Councilmember

Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

Cc: Scott Ullery, Rockville City Manager
Angel Jones, Gaithersburg City Manager
Greg Ossont, Director, Planning and Code Administration
Susan Swift, Director, Community Planning and Development Services
David B. Levy, Chief of Long Range Planning
Ann Wallas, Planner III
Kirk Eby, Planner
Rollin Stanley, M-NCPPC
Glen Kreger, M-NCPPC
Nkosi Yearwood, M-NCPPC

Attachments